When a large tract of mountain surface is exposed above the snow line, when the precipitation exceeds that which can be removed by melting or by evaporation, the surplus snow collects in the valleys and rorges, and slowly—almost impercepti-bly—moves down the slope far below the usual limit. Thus are formed the well-known "rivers of ice," or glaciers. The best-known glaciers are in Switzer land, where some four hundred, varying in length from five to fourteen miles, are scattered through the Alpine Their width varies from half a mile to one mile, and their greatest thickness, it is estimated, is somewhere about one thousand feet. But these, when compared to some of our Greenland or Alaska glaciers, become very insignificant. Muir glacier, for instance, occupies a tract some thirty or forty miles wide, from which nine main atreams and seventeen branches unite to form a grand trunk, that pushes a mighty wall of solid ice, 5,000 feet wide and 700 feet deep, into Glacier bay. The great Humboldt far outstrips this, being fully 115 miles wide and some 2,000 feet in thickness. Nordenskield, who penetrated 128 miles inland, was unable o find its end. Goldthwaite's Geographical Magazine thinks that in all prob ability it is an arm of one gigantic field of ice, capping the interior of Green land, and moving gradually but cease lessly toward the sea.

These monsters, however, are much more difficult to study than their smaller brothers in Switzerland, so we will leave them and see what there is to be seen on and about one of the lat-Beginning with his bleak, dreary hirthplace, some two or three thousand feet above the snow line, and following it to the point where it is transformed into a muddy torrent, we will first select some summit having about that el-Here the light, powdery snow, which is but slightly affected by the heat of the sun, is blown hither and thither by the winds, and finally deposited in the gulches and ravines. There it accumulates until, principally by its own weight, it begins to creep down the slope to the valleys below. As it gradually approaches the snow line ly. it is more and more affected by solar heat, which every day converts the surface snow into, myriads of tiny rills. These trickle into every possible crack and oranny and, during the night, are frezen solld again. Thus, through a succession of freezing and thawing, the entire mass acquires a coarse, granular composition, quite unlike the soft, powdery substance which it was farther

up the slope.

But all this time fresh deposits of snow are being piled on top. These naturally tend to compress it, and of course are in their turn compressed by still more recent falls. In this manner with the aid of radiation, the neve, as it is called, passes, by insensible gradu-tiens, into clear, solid ice—the glacier proper. This ends its formation

#### LEARN TO TAKE IT EASY. Too Much Worry and Business Not Good for a Man.

"It does seem strange to me," said ex-Congressman West to a New York Herreporter the other day, "why some business men cling closely to business all their lifetime. You laugh? Well, siness is business, of course, and Ben Franklin knew what he was talking about when he sald something about saving a penny every time you get a chance. But what I mean to say is that a business man needn't be everlastingly making lots of money. He should take a holiday, and at times a jolly long one." Mr. West stroked his big white beard and looked up at the ceiling as if trying to count the roses in the frescoed syreaths above the chandelier, and then

Rich men in business, no matter whether they began business when they were poor as church mice or whether they had piles of money before they got out of their teens, are becoming sensible nowadays. I can count on my fingers' ends dozens of men who, twenty-five years ago, never took a week off in summer time who were rich as Crossus years and years before that, and yet who went to their offices as early as they had to do when they were clerking it; and they kept it up till they toppled into their graves. Why, I Why, I knew some New York business men twenty-five years ago who had never taken an ocean bath because they had never seen the ocean beyond the Battery. I know a thing or two about Saratogs, and, would you believe it, last summer I had as pleasant a day as I ever thent in my life at Ballston with a nerchant in this city who had gone out of town for a week for the first time during the sixty years of his active business life? Yetthatman had always made his clerks go away for a week every summer, with a week's salary paid in advance. Business men don't feel old nowa-

days because their hair is gray. They don't save up for the 'boys' by depriv-ing themselves of needed recreation. They take their share of jollities of life too; and by jollities I don't mean jags. And though they don't work as many hours a day as their fathers did they manage to accomplish much more."

#### GAMBLING IN KENTUCKY. Young and Old Have Plenty of Money and Love to Risk It.

"I visited a number of the country fairs in the blue grass region of Ken-tucky last year," said a prominent New York lawyer to a reporter for the Evening News, "and I was very much surprised at the liberal use of

"Way out there one hundred miles from Louisville and one hundred and twenty-five miles from Cincinnati could be found handsomely dressed young men and old men, who showed that they had never been acoustomed to hard work, flourishing their bills like so much paper. They were not city chaps, but country born and bred. I could not understand it. There are no manufacturing interests there to speak of, no mining, nothing but agriculture, a pursuit which requires the hardest of manual labor; yet these men sported as soft palms as the highest bred city folk. Further than that, they had plenty of money and used it liberally. "I failed to find a solution to my

problem until one day my host took me chind his house, pointed to large fields of green leaves and said: 'Do you see I answered in the affirmative and he said: 'That is tobacco. I will get from eighteen hundred to two thoumids per acre off that field and sell it for from twelve and one-half to sixteen come per pound. I did not work very hard for it either. The printhe gathering and selling the crop. the northern farmer by hard labor got large circle of his friends. twenty-five or thirty dollars the Ken-

tucky landlord, by the aid of his negro help, made from one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and fifty dollars, says the Chicago News. "But that which surprised me the most was the amount of gambling that

men at those county fairs shake money in each other's faces in the presence of hundreds, offer their bets and take the

stakes. You could hardly step up to a tent on the grounds but that you would find some kind of a gambling scheme. And it was not what we call the sports who took part, but the very best citizens of the country.

"That section of Kentucky is very productive. It comprises the country in the neighborhood of Lexington, Shelbyville, Paris, Frankfort and Mount Sterling. It is no doubt a garden spot, and it is little wonder that the people do not work hard. All they have to do is to take care of what is around them."

## HE HAD BEEN THERE

How an Expert Quickly Opened a "Bur "Do you see that tall, spare man eaning against the rail over there?" said James Vance, steward of the Athenian club, to a San Francisco Examiner reporter. "Well, I'll tell you a little yarn in which he played an amusing part. Some years ago Harquette & Haggeman of the Crystal Palace saloon got a big safe, all gorgeous with paint and glorious with impossible land-Ernest Harquette was very proud of it, and in his bustling, eager way would show it to all the patrons of the place, expatiating upon its merits. One evening he was engaged in showing a party of gentlemen the wonders of the safe and ran on: 'No burgar could ever get into that, I tell you. He couldn't open it in a week. It's the salest safe in this town for money.' "'Oh, I don't know about that,' said that tall man, who was then leaning on

the bar just as he is now leaning on the rail. 'I don't think it so safe.' "This startled Harquette a little. No se had ever questioned that safe before in that offhand way. He flushed a little while the stranger regarded him nonchalantly. Harquette felt, net-

tied and at last blurted out:
"'I'll put five hundred dollars in that safe and if you can get it out in six hours you can have it. Axes, fimmles and all tools are allowed, but dynamite barred. "'I'll go you,' said our tall triend. 'We'll make it half an hour and no

tools, however.' "Harquette promptly dumped five hundred dollars into a bag, put the bag into the safe and turned the combination. 'There you are,' he said, defiant-

"The tall man got down on his knees, put an ear against the safe where the tumblers work and began turning the knob of the combination. He didn't say a word but steadily clicked away. Harquette began to sweat and step

"In twenty-three minutes the safe was open. Our friend over there took the bag of money, handed it to the sumbfounded Harquette, and said, cynically: 'I don't want your money. They salted me for a little job, like that once. My name is Ensign.

A Fine Distinction Doubtless our unlettered frien is have fine distinction in the use of words, for which we do not give them sufficient credit, says the North. A new pupil in colored school took a shattered lamp

chimney to show her teacher.

"Ah!" said he, "your chimney is roken, is it?" "No, sir," she answered, "its@busted." In her distinction of terms lay all the ifference between a confession of guilt and an assertion of innocence. The word "broken" she understood to mean that the misbap had occurred by her own fault; and in correcting to "busted" she meant to imply that some unknown agency, a current of cold air, perhaps, had caused the break.

Here is a distinction as clear and real as we make in more scholarly terms

#### HEAD OF A LARGE FAMILY. She Had Two Thousand Descendants and

Saw Her Sixth Generation Mrs. Annie Roush has died at Letart a few miles from Parkersburg, W. Va. aged nearly 106 years. It is thought, says the Washington Star, that she was the head of the largest family in the world and the only woman in this tart now stands. In 1803 Annie married forest growth. Henry Roush and was the mother of the "tree" may not exactly be a tree thirteen children. The first schild, in the true sense of the word, partaking Sarah, married Thomas Coleman and be- as it does more of the nature and charcame the mother of twelve children. acteristics of a gigantic species of aspar-The next, Elizabeth, married Hanry agus. It has large, thick, fleshy leaves, and after his death married John Wag-oner. It is through her children that The "needles" of the needle-andoner. It is through her children that Mrs. Roush could trace her descent to thread tree are set along the edges of the sixth generation. The fourth child, these thick, fleshy leaves. In order to Annie, had an even dozen of children. obtain one fully equipped for sewing it The next four children were girls, and their progeny numbered forty-eight.

The ninth died when he was young.

(this to loosen it from the tough outside The next two were girls and had covering of the leaf), and then pull it twenty-one children. The last two gently from the socket. If this operachildren were boys and have seventeen tion be properly carried out one hun-David, is the father of six children, and of any length desired. The action of his eldest daughter's (Mary's) child, the air on the fibers toughens them manbered 185, and the total number of onbered 135, and the total number of of common "six-cord" spool cotton—r great-grandchildren is not less than Philadelphia Press. The number of her descendants is over 3,000, although the exact number

#### TRICKS OF A BEAVER.

cannot be ascertained.

A tame beaver, kept some years ago by the soldiers at Bent's fort, on the Arkansas river, became quite famous on account of his sagacity. This animal was caught when young, and became perfectly docile, being a great fa-vorite of the families of the fort and of the trappers when they returned from their trips to the mountains, says the Great Divide. The little fellow could never be cured of his instinct to build dams. He actually undertook to dam the Arkansas river, and worked for months all night long, returning to the fort every morning as the sun rose. He cut down quite a number of large trees, but life proved too short for the com-pletion of his plans.

While around the fort he was constantly turning over every kind of a vessel that contained water and collecting sticks to head it off as it flowed away. One night by oversight the beaver was locked up in the warehouse. During the night in nosing about he discovered a ten-gallon tank of molasses that had been left uncovered. That discovery proved Jack's doom. The next day he was found gasping for cipal trouble I have is to see that the life, having been caught in the sticky negroes do the work, and I attend to mass as the tank was upturned. He the gathering and selling the crop. tenderly buried in the presence of a

A French doctor has evolve theory that the color and nature of the bair have an influence on the pursuits of man. Thus, he declares that red-whiskered men have a tendency toward the race track and the hunting field, most was the amount of gambling that is permitted. Why, sir, I have seen men with straight black hair are apt to feel that they have a call to the ministrant of the ministran try, while light-haired men are natural travelers and adventurers.

A MODEST CLAIM. The Lost Valise That Suddenly Became

Not long ago a traveling man put his valise on a baggage truck on an Indianspolis, Decatur & Western station while he went to buy a ticket and when he returned the valise was gone. Some one had stolen it. According to the rules of the company Superintendent Boyd told him to make an itemized statement of the contents of the valise. and this was done. That statement was, in the language of Mr. Boyd, "t daisy." Cuff buttons worth twelve dollars a pair; collar buttons at four dollars each, and among other things a suit of clothes that he said his wife had sent him from New York and which he had never worn. The entire bill was for one hundred and forty dollars, and though the company believed it was being imposed upon the account was sworn to and it was in for the payment. Mr. Boyd delayed matters as long a possible in hopes of some clew, and he thinks himself lucky that he did. One day the valise was found in a ravine near the station, where it had been thrown by the thieves, and Superintendent Boyd made an examination of its contents. He says the cuff buttons listed at twelve dollars could be bought anywhere for fifty cents a pair. The four-dollar collar buttons were common bone affairs that sell at "two for five." and the new suit of clothes was no there at all. Instead was a letter written by the man's wife in which she regretted that she could not send him his new suit because the tailor had not finished it but she would send it in ten days, which would be three days later than the date on which the valise was stolen. The total value of the valise and its contents was about six dollars As the loser had sworn to the one hundred and forty dollar statement he did not press any further his claim against the company when he learned that the valise and its contents had been recovered.-Indianapolis News.

#### HIS POOR SERVANT. What a Noted French Author Wrote of

Himself. When Honore de Balzac, the novelist, stated in early life his wish to become a literary man, his father, who had destined him for the bar, was shocked and disappointed. Still, he gave the boy two years in which to prove his fitness for a literary life, and Honore was accordingly installed in an attic near the library where he proposed to work. His mother believed that a little hard-

hip would soon bring him to his senses, but the correspondence which he there-upon began with his sister shows that the man who was afterward to attain distinction in his chosen work could afford, as a youth, to seorn such trifles as waiting upon himself. In the very first letter, he confided to his sister the news that he had taken a servant. He writes: "He is named Myself! And a bad bargain he is, truly! Myself is lazy, clumsy, thoughtless. His master is hungry or thirsty, and often enough. Myself has neither bread nor water give him; he doesn't even know how to shield him from the wind which whistles through the door and window. As

soon as I am awake I ring for Myself. and he makes my bed. Then he sweeps the room, and clumsy he is at it. 'Myselfi' "'Yes, sir.'

"Look at that cobweb with the big fly buzzing in it till I am half-giddy with the noise, and the fluff under the bed, and the dust on the window panes!" "The lazy beggar gazes at me and doesn't stir, and yet, in spite of all his defects, I can't get rid of that uninteligent Myself!"

And the same stupid "Myself" it was who afterward enriched French literature with a series of wonderful works. -Youth's Companion.

#### NEEDLE-AND-THREAD TREE. In Mexico Nature Supplies Women with

Sewing Material. That there are more wonders on the earth, in the sea, "beneath the earth," country who lived to see her sixth generation. Mrs. Roush was born at Mortio imagined is a well known fact which gantown, Pa., June 4, 1784, when that worthy's most ardent admirers will Washington, Hamilton and Jefferson not attempt to deny. Take, for inwere planting the constitution. Her stance, the famous needle-and-thread father was David Sayre. In 1801 Mr. tree. Imagine such a luxury and the Sayre started west and settled above delights of going out to your tree and Pomeroy, on the Virginia side. Here plucking a needle threaded all ready he resided several years, finally moving for usel Odd as it may seem to us, there up the river and crossing to where Le- is, on the Mexican plains, just such a

The "tree" may not exactly be a tree Wolf and had sixteen children. The such as would remind one of the cactus, third, Lydia, married a Mr. McClain, especially of the one popularly known

children around their boards. The dred or more fine fibers adhere to the second daughter of Lydia Wagoner, thorn like so many spider webs. By who was Mrs. Roush's third child, married a Mr. Hazlett. Their eldest son, ing operation the thread can be made Nannie, aged about 5 years, has the amazingly, a thread from it not larger unique distinction of living at the same than common No. 40 being capable of time as her great-great-great-grand-sustaining a weight of five pounds, Mrs. Roush's grandchildren about three times the tensile strength

#### ENGLAND AS A WAR POWER.

Ben Butler Says She Always Hires Other People to Do Her Fighting. Great Britain never had more than 25,000 soldiers from her own islands between the four seas, on any battlefield, and those were at Waterloo, while we had in our late war more than that number to starve or die of wounds or sickness in a single prison. Does anyone believe, asks Ben Butler in the North American Review, that England will ever forget that at the close of our war we disbanded quite 2,000,000 of soliiers and that 500,000 of them are yet alive to take a hand in any war in which he honor of our country is assailed by Great Britain? I have said, and pe haps may be criticised for it, that she is ot a warlike nation. Her government continually making war on small na tions and hiring some one else to do the

If there is anything on which England can pride herself for prowess in war it is her navy. But she cannot forget that until simost within the present generation that navy could only be supplied with sailors sufficient to man it by ging them from their homes by press to have faith in bonds in settling lifficulties between England and this country. Be it so. England has given this country bonds in untold millions that she will keep the peace and be of good behavior. The first gun fired in the Behring sea by one of her vessels would be war as much as the first gun fired at Fort Sumte: and as the battle of Gettysburg. War abrogates all treaties of amity and commerce. War permits the confiscation of all property of one belligerent found on its shores

nsn syndicates or subjects would be fost to her. It would seem as if we could find the means to carry on the war by selling her property in open market and using the proceeds; and when we hear the shells from her fleet, if we should do so, breaking the plate glass in Broad-way, we should be comfortably rememring that a great deal of it belonged to English people. Stopping the ex-port of cotton for three months would starve Manchester and its workmen and

## HARDY CAMELS.

They Flourish in Almost Any Latitude or Climate. In a recent article on the camel, Lehmann remarks, according to Nature,

that neither the most broiling heat nor the most intense cold, nor extreme daily or yearly variations hinder the distribution of the camel. The dromedary of the Sahara has better health there than in the more equably warm regions, though after a day of tropical heat the thermometer sometimes goes down several degrees below freezing point. In eastern Asia winter is the time the animals are made to work. In very intense cold they are sewn up in felt covers. Each race does best in its iome, as a Soudan camel would not flourish in northeast Asia. Camels are of the ship and consisted of two stories, very sensitive to moisture. In the somewhat after the style of the stern of region of tropical rains they are usually absent, and if caravans enter such regions, the results are greatly feared. The sensitiveness to dry or wet conditions is seen in the characters of the different races. The finest, most noblelooking animals, with short, silklike hair, are found in the interior of deserts (as in the Juarek region in north sail was a topsail, while on the mizzen-Africa), and they cannot be used for mast there was what might be termed journeys to moist regions. Even in a three-cornered lugsail—something be-Fezzan (south of Tripoli) the animals tween a lugsail and a jib. The mainare shorter and fatter, with long, coarse hair; and in Nile lands and on coasts it is the same. These animals, moreover, are less serviceable as regards speed and

### SEA SERPENTS.

Scientists Who Believe in These Marine Monsters. Prof. Agassiz was a firm believer in the existence of a sea-scrpent of exceptional proportions, and spent a neat deal of time collecting material bearing on that subject, says the Philadelphia Press. He was especially interested in anything appertaining to the sea monster which made such a stir along the Atlantic coast in 1856. This serpent appeared first at Nahant, Mass., and was followed along the coast for miles by the excited citizens of Nahant, Lynn and Swampscott, many of whom

ade affidavit to what they had seen. Sir Charles Levell, the noted geologist, thought it altogether probable that some of the primeval monsters may street railways nor other systems of bave survived until these latter days; municipal transit beyond a few omniand, like the renowned professor above mentioned, spent months and years collecting and arranging sea-serpents lore. Prof. Busby says: "I have with my

own eyes seen a sca-serpent not less than one hundred and eighty feet in length lashing the waves of the bay of Bengal. . . . I know that I was wide awake at the time and that the object I saw was not kelp, 'marine gelatin, or any other inanimate substance. . . I believe in sea-serpents because I have been near enough to one (the one just mentioned) to see its horrid teeth."

#### LORD LYTTON'S SPEECH. ome Peculiarities of the Great English Novelist.

Lytton had a curious drawling maner of speech, his words being interspersed with frequent "erras" to help him out when he was waiting for the free public baths or municipal hundri proper word, says the Cornhill Magazine. Then, again, he would emphasize a sentence or a single word by loudly raising his voice, a peculiarity which gave his talk a certain dramatic character. I remember once when I was dining with him the conversation turned upon the universality of belief in a Divine Creator, and even now I fancy I hear him saying: "When-erra-I had the honor-erra-of becoming he majesty's secretary of state for the colonies, I made it my first business-erra -to instruct my agents all over the inhabitable globe-erra-to report to me if they knew of any nation, tribe or community-erra;" thus far he had spoken in a low, melodious voice, when suddenly be changed his register, shot out the following words as from a catanult: "Who did not believe in a God." He added that he had only found one savage community with such a want of

#### CHINESE DRUMMERS.

Almond-Eyed California Merchants Doing Without High-Priced White Labor. The Chinese have discovered another way of competing with white men. For ears the merchants in Chinatown, particularly those manufacturing cigars and clothing, have employed white men at large salaries to drum up interior trade. The merchant, realizing the strong feeling against his countrymen, knew that it would be hard for him to do business personally with white merchants. Many of the interior merchants, while they were ready to pat-ronize the Chinese firms, did not like the fact known, and when a Chinaman dressed in his national costume called upon him he was inclined to avoid be ng seen with him. With the white drummer, however, the San Francisco Call says, it was different. The latte could register at any of the hotels, and after selling a man a bill of goods, could invite the customer to drink or take dinner with him, an invitation none would accept from a Chinaman.

A few months ago, however, the Chiese merchants began to discharge their high-salaried white drummers and travel on the road themselves, or filled the vacancies with their own country men. Little Pete, of jury bribery fame, who is a heavy producer in Chinatown, was one of the first to inaugurate the new custom. He fitted a Chinese employe out in American clothes, furnished him with a well fitted wig and sent him out on the road. The venture was a success, and Little Pete soon found his business progressing as well as when he employed the white drum-

In his American dress the general appearance of the Chinaman, which is so objectionable to the whites, was almost hidden. In this attire, and with no queue visible, the interior hotel keeper made no objection to him, and he was therefore allowed to extend the same business courtesies to the white custom

ers as the white drummers. Other Chinese firms soon adopted the ew custom and now there are nearly fifty disguised Chinamen, traveling up and down this state as drummers. The presence of numerous Chinamen wearing wigs and American clothes has been noticed lately in this city, but few could explain a reason for it.

A "bore bell" is the latest necessity of busy men and women. It is an invisible bell, arranged on the floor near the victim of a too talkative caller. When the guest has talked enough the host or hostess quietly puts a foot on the secret spot in the floor and the serror within jurisdiction of the other.

Every debt, demand, certificate of stock, due from an American would be at once forfeited and confiscated.

Every rood of our land owned by lingHIS THREE SHIPS.

Accurate Description of the Fleet of Old Christopher Columbus The American naval officers sent to Spain to ascertain the details of design of the three craft which formed Colum bus' fleet on his voyage of discovery, with the design of having the vess built and navigated for the Chicago exhibition, have been very successful in their labors, and, indeed, many points would be of advantage to us, as cotton of dispute have been settled as to the is very low in price and we could use it. type of craft, and generally the famous nting by Brugada in the museum at Madrid has been found to be correct. In the search the log of the admiral of the fleet was found, as well as charts and sketches made by the pilot, Juan de la Corso. Columbus' boat was the

Santa Maria, and the escorting craft were named Nina and Pinta. The first named was the largest, be ing about seventy-five feet over all. The keel was sixty-two feet, the breadth was twenty feet (only four feet of length to one of the beam, whereas now it is nine to one). The hold was about fifteen feet deep and the capacity between one hundred and twenty and one hundred and thirty tons. The crew consisted of ninety men, and they were accommodated in houses forward and aft. The latter extended to the center our old two-deckers. There were three masts, with five

sails in all, including a jib, a foresail and a mainsail of enormous area, with a large cross painted on it, as was the custom with the Spaniards and Portu-guese to distinguish their ships from those of the godless. Above the main mast had a military top. The speed got was eleven knots per hour. She had very small guns. By the way, the main flag had four squares, on two of which was a lion rampant, and on the others a castle, the arms of Castlle. Aragon was excluded from this honor by order of Queen Isabella, as it refused to contribute to the cost. The pennant had the initials of King Ferdinand and the queen, Isabella. The construction of the Santa Maria and the other two vessels is to be commenced forthwith.

#### FIFTY YEARS AGO.

Wonderful Changes of the Last Half Century. In the Review of Reviews, in an article entitled "Municipal Problems of New York and London," the following occurs:

Fifty years ago there were no under ground sewers; there were no public water supplies; there was no street lighting worthy the name; there were no municipal transit beyond a few omnibuses and carriages; there were no well paved streets; there were no systems of street cleansing; there were no mu nicipal arrangements for domestic scavenging or the disposition of the waste accumulations of overcrowded towns; there were no building regula tions which protected the working classes against overcrowding under horribly unsanitary conditions; there were no measures for the prevention of the spread of epidemic diseases; there were no public fire departments; there was no public system of education; there was no municipal control of the liquor traffic or of other evils which are now subject to strict municipal supervision and control; there were practically no such things as municipal parks or playgrounds; there were of source no public libraries and reading-rooms; infinitely free public baths or municipal laundries for the tenement districts, or any one of a dozen other kinds of municipal provision for the health, comfort and protection of urban populations that are now made a part of the marvelously expanded municipal activity of great and prosperous communities.

#### A FAMOUS CHOIR

It Consists of Sixty Boys and Is in St. l'eter's of Rome. "Undoubtedly, the finest choir in the

world is that of St. Peter's in Rome. known as the pope's choir," said Frank Torre, of Baltimore, in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. "There is not a female voice in it, and yet the most difficult oratories and sacred music written are rendered in such a manner as to nake one think that Adelina Patti's high soprano is leading. The choir is composed of sixty boys. They are trained for the work from the time they get control of their vocal chords. and some of the best singers are not over nine years old. At the age of seventeen they are dropped from the choir. To say that at the pope's service one hears the grandest church music that the world has ever known ounds commonplace, so far short doe it fall of apt description. I am some thing of a connoisseur, have been a profound student of music all my life and have heard every great opera produced by the most famous organizations, but until a few months ago, when I heard the pope's choir, I had no idea that the human voice was capable of such performances. I don't see why the big operatic organizations don't learn a esson from St. Peter's and have a chorus of boys exclusively. It would not suit the bald heads, but it would please the genuine lovers of music."

#### English Orthography.

Of the proposed reform in spelling Prof. F. J. Caild, of Harvard, says: "One of the most useful things just now is to break down the respect which a great foolish public has for the established spelling. Some have a religious awe and some have an earth-born passion for it. At present I don't care much how anybody spells. Any par-ticular individual spelling is likely to be more rational than the ordinary." As Prof. Child is the foremost American authority on the English language his opinion is most interesting. Mr. Lounsbury, the English professor at Yale savs that "No fetichism among savage tribes is so senseless as our respect for the present orthography of the English tongue."

The very latest invention in the way of magazine small arms, and one not yet submitted to the United States army oard, is the gun that has just been put in test by the Italian authorities. The rifle is four feet long and of the smallest caliber yet attempted, .256-inch. The speed of the bullet is 3,360 foot-seconds, and as regards its penetrative force it is said that the ball will pierce two mattresses and two planks five inches thick at a distance of nearly a mile. Loading is effected by means of chargers con-taining five cartridges arranged so that a repeating fire may be obtained until the magazine is exhausted. Many of the experts who attended the trials are opinion that the wespon is the most destructive at present existing

among European armies.

—If the great daily and weekly press of this country would tell the people the real cause of all their poverty they would force the enactment of laws that in one year would transform the country into a veritable paradise and there would not be a more of the country in would not be a case of poverty in all the land. So long as the plutocrats can keep the people in ignorance they can continue to rob the mass of all the wealth they create.—Colorado Worksman and Farmer.

what applies to the savings to the savings of the position so freely proclaimed by the gold-bug orators and subsidized newspapers applies equally well to the pensioners upon the government.—Denver Road.



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